

Whereas, Indiana University Bloomington, its schools, and departments have a long and important tradition of subscribing to principles of faculty governance, as exercised ~~both primarily~~ through formal faculty bodies, the BFC and additional elected faculty governance bodies in schools, departments and other units, as well as ~~and secondarily and~~ less formally through the involvement and consultation of faculty on academic matters ~~in their schools and departments; and~~

Whereas, in light of recent controversies at other institutions, the Bloomington Faculty Council finds it useful to reaffirm two central tenets of faculty governance and academic freedom, which we believe are consistent with established IUB campus practices as well as the principles by which American universities have long operated; therefore, be it

Resolved:

1) Policies as well as individual decisions on appointment, promotion, tenure, conduct, discipline, and dismissal of faculty are primarily a faculty responsibility (see Bloomington Faculty Council Constitution, Art. II, Secs. 2.1(A)(1)(F), 2.1(B)(11), and 2.2(B)), guided by established traditions of collegial consultation and subject to relevant campus procedures (see, e.g., <https://www.indiana.edu/~vpfaa/academicguide/index.php/B. Recruitment for Academic Positions>).

2) Faculty have the same right and duty as all other citizens to participate ~~responsibly~~ in debates on matters of public concern, including the right to express unpopular opinions. We underscore the IU Policy on Academic Freedom, which has been repeatedly affirmed by the Board of Trustees and faculty councils, and which may be found at: <http://policies.iu.edu/policies/categories/academic-faculty-students/conditions-academic-employment/Academic-Freedom.shtml> ~~states in relevant part: "In public utterances the teacher and librarian shall be free of institutional control.... The teacher or librarian should recognize that a professional position in the community involves the obligation to be accurate, to exercise appropriate restraint, and to show respect for the right of others to express their views."~~